

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Vernon Bernard Parker, of Arizona, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Civil Rights.

APPROPRIATIONS: AIR FORCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2004 for the Air Force, after receiving testimony from James G. Roche, Secretary of the Air Force; and General John P. Jumper, Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

AERIAL FIRE FIGHTING SAFETY

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests held oversight hearings to examine issues uncovered as a result of the Blue Ribbon Panel's report of findings on Aerial Fire Fighting Safety and responses to the report, after receiving testimony from Tony Kern, Assistant Director of Aviation, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Larry Hamilton, National Director, Office of Fire and Aviation, Bureau of Land Management, National Interagency Fire Center, Department of the Interior; James Hall, Hall and Associates, Washington, D.C., former Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board, and James B.

Hull, Texas Forest Service, College Station, both on behalf of the Blue Ribbon Fact Finding Panel on Aviation; William R. Broadwell, Aerial Firefighting Industry Association, Springfield, Virginia; and Duane A. Powers, Hawkins and Powers Aviation, Inc., Greybull, Wyoming.

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee held hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2004 for United States foreign assistance concerning security and economic assistance programs to the Near East, East Asia and the Pacific, and South Asia, focusing on the development of child survival programs, Economic Support Fund, Freedom Support Act, International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement Program, Nonproliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining, and Related Programs, Peace Corps, Refugees, Foreign Military Financing, International Military Education and Training Program, voluntary peacekeeping activities, and Title II food assistance grants, receiving testimony from William J. Burns, Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, Christina B. Rocca, Assistant Secretary for South Asian Affairs, and James A. Kelly, Assistant Secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, all of the Department of State; and Wendy Chamberlin, Assistant Administrator for Asia and the Near East, United States Agency for International Development.

Hearings will continue on Wednesday, April 2.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Measures Introduced: 16 public bills, H.R. 1440–1455; 2 private bills, H.R. 1456–1457; and 9 resolutions, H.J. Res. 43; H. Con. Res. 118–123, and H. Res. 163–164, were introduced.

Pages H2400–01

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H2401–02

Reports Filed: No reports were filed today.

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Otter to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. Page H2313

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest Chaplain, Rev. Ed Sears, Pastor, Grace Baptist Temple of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

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Child Abduction Prevention Act Rule: The House agreed to H. Res. 160, the rule that is providing for consideration of H.R. 1104, to prevent child abduction by voice vote. Earlier agreed to order the previous question by yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 198 nays, Roll No. 86.

Pages H2319–25

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Supporting Efforts To Recognize the Problem of Child Abuse and Neglect: H. Res. 113, amended, recognizing the social problem of child abuse and neglect, and supporting efforts to enhance public awareness of the problem.

Pages H2316–19